

Aug. 10.

TWELVE CRAFTS AT BOSTON.

Three Have Swordfish and the Rest Cod and Haddock.

Boston has an even dozen fares this morning, three of which are swordfish, the others, groundfish fares, ranging from 5000 to 80,000 pounds, sch. Aspinet being high with the latter figure. Prices are good, a fair trade reported.

Nothing would give more pleasure to the wholesale dealers at T wharf today than to see a fleet of seiners coming up the harbor. They would draw no lines as to the number, and would welcome even a single vessel. They have swordfish and ground fish, halibut and some fancy fish from the south, but mackerel are scarce, and the big heavy mackerel that the seiners on Georges brought to the market at the beginning of last week and the week before are wanted in the market.

Some mackerel came to the market yesterday, but they are mostly small and tinker mackerel, which are sweet and tender, but do not satisfy those who like the taste of the larger and fatter kinds. There were 114 barrels of mackerel received by boat or rail, 92 barrels coming on the steamer from Halifax and the rest from small fishermen along the coast of Cape Cod.

Two immense albacores each weighing more than 500 pounds, were brought to Boston yesterday morning on the Yarmouth steamer, on which there was also a barrel of fresh mackerel and some halibut. The swordfishermen find that the big fish have left Georges, and will now go to the Bay of Fundy in search of them.

The absence of swordfish from the market for a few days last week proved a good thing for the fishermen, and the price went up yesterday several cents a pound.

Sch. Rita A. Viator had her third trip of fish, and her men have done well for the season thus far. Up to the present trip, the vessel had stocked \$1950, and the men have shared each \$105. The shares of the men are smaller than they would have been, as the vessel uses gasoline power, and the cost of the gasoline is reckoned as a share, which took \$105 from the crew. From the present trip they will receive about \$50.

Sch. Almeida has also had three trips, and Capt. Frank Cooney, Jr., though more accustomed to the fishing in the south, has made a good record in the venture this summer. He has stocked up to his present trip \$1800, and has given to each member of his crew \$105, and expects to add to that from the present trip between \$50 and \$60.

The receipts in detail are as follows:

Boston Arrivals.

Sch. Athena, 18,000 haddock, 7000 cod, 2000 pollock.  
Sch. Aspinet, 12,000 haddock, 55,000 cod, 10,000 hake, 8000 cusk.  
Sch. Louisa R. Silva, 6000 haddock, 18,000 cod, 1000 hake, 20,000 pollock.  
Sch. Hattie F. Knowlton, 2500 haddock, 300 cod, 600 hake.  
Sch. Eva Avina, 2000 cod, 5000 pollock.  
Sch. Olivia Sears, 5000 pollock.  
Sch. Fannie B. Atwood, 17,000 haddock, 7000 cod, 18,000 hake.  
Sch. Motor, 66 swordfish.  
Sch. Dorcas, 50 swordfish.  
Sch. Topsail Girl, 83 swordfish.  
Sch. Buema, 8000 haddock, 8000 cod, 3000 pollock.  
Sch. Benjamin F. Phillips, 38,000 haddock, 20,000 cod, 8000 hake.  
Haddock, \$1 to \$3 per cwt.; large cod, \$3 to \$3.50; market cod, \$1.75 to \$3.25; hake, \$1 to \$2; cusk, \$2; pollock, \$1.25; swordfish, \$10.35 per hundred weight.

Nova Scotia Fish Movements.

Digby—Cod and hake plenty; herring fair; haddock scarce.  
Pubnico—Cod and herring fair.  
Clark's Harbor—Cod and hake fair; halibut scarce.  
Port La Tour—Cod fair off-shore; 40 barrels herring in Blanche trap.  
Sand Point—Cod and herring fair.  
Lockeport—Cod plenty; good appearance of herring in nets and traps.  
Liverpool—Cod, haddock, herring and mackerel fair; 2000 mackerel taken.  
Lunenburg—Cod fair; traps report 200 large mackerel.  
Musquodoboit—Cod and haddock fair; herring scarce.  
Salmon River—Cod and trout fair.  
Canso—Pollock and squid plenty; cod and haddock fair.  
Queensport—Squid plenty; cod, hake and haddock scarce.  
Magdalene Islands—Mackerel reported fair.

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FISH RECEIPTS AGAIN LIGHT.

Sch. Senator Fished on Bacalieu and Quero Banks.

Arrivals at this port this morning do not shape up very heavy. Sch. Lizzie Maud, from a salt Rips trip, has a good fare of salt cod and sch. Senator from Bacalieu has a combination trip of fresh and flitched halibut. Sch. Waldo L. Stream brought some salt cod from Boston and sch. Monarch, from Georges, has some salted bluebacks. Schs. Marguerite Haskins, Hattie A. Heckman and Ralph L. Hall of the mackerel fleet are home with anything but encouraging reports.

Capt. George Marr of sch. Senator reports a scarcity of halibut on Bacalieu bank. Finding little there the crew flitched what fish they had and came up to Quero bank and struck a spot of fish and came home with them. Besides her fresh and flitched halibut she had some fresh and salt cod.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Today's Receipt.

Sch. Monarch, Georges, 20 bbls. salt bullseyes.  
Sch. Marguerite Haskins, 2 bbls. large salt mackerel.  
Sch. Ralph L. Hall, seining.  
Sch. Hattie A. Heckman, seining.  
Sch. Lizzie Maud, Rips, 50,000 lbs. salt cod.  
Sch. Waldo L. Stream, via Boston, 10,000 lbs. salt cod.  
Sch. Senator, Bacalieu Bank and Quero Bank, 18,000 lbs. halibut, 7000 lbs. flitched halibut, 7000 lbs. salt cod, 6000 lbs. fresh fish.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Vanessa, Boston.  
Sch. Galatea, Boston.  
Sch. Seaconnet, Boston.  
Sch. Mary T. Fallon, seining.  
Sch. Yakima, halibuting.  
Sch. Emily Sears, haddocking.  
Sch. Patrician, seining.  
Sch. Annie Greenlaw, seining.  
Sch. Flora J. Sears, haddocking.  
Sch. Rob Roy, salt shacking.  
Sch. Volant, Rips.  
Sch. Pauline, Rips.  
Sch. James W. Parker, salt shacking.

Today's Fish Market.

Cape North salt cod, large, \$3; mediums, \$2.75.  
Cape North fresh cod, large, \$1.55; mediums, \$1.40.  
Outside sales fresh western cod, large, \$2; market, \$1.65; haddock, 65c. and 67 1-2c.  
Outside sales fresh eastern cod, large, \$1.70; mediums, \$1.50.  
Outside sales salt Rips cod, \$3.60 per cwt. for large and \$3.25 for mediums.  
Outside sales trawl bank salt cod, large, \$2.87 1-2; mediums, \$2.62 1-2; snappers, \$1.50.  
Salt dory handline codfish, large, \$3.25; mediums, \$3.  
Outside sales of round pollock, 60c. per cwt.  
Bank halibut, 9 cents per lb. for white and 7 cents per lb. for gray.  
Fresh large mackerel, 15 cts. each.  
Fresh medium mackerel, 16 cts. each.  
Salt shore mackerel, unrimmed \$18, per barrel.  
Salt bullseyes, \$7.87 1-2 per bbl.  
Board of Trade prices:  
Large drift Georges cod, \$3.60 per cwt.; medium cod, \$3.25.  
Large halibut cod, \$3 per cwt.; medium cod, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.75.  
Trawl salt Georges cod, large, \$3.50, medium, \$3.00.  
Dory handline salt cod, large, \$3.25, medium, \$3.00.  
Eastern drift salt cod, large, \$3.50, medium, \$3.15.  
Trawl bank cod, large, \$2.87 1-2 per cwt.; medium, \$2.62 1-2; snappers, \$1.50.  
Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.00, snappers, \$1.  
Salt pollock, \$1 per cwt.; salt haddock, \$1; salt hake, \$1.  
Splitting price for fresh fish, Western cod, large, \$2 per cwt.; medium do., \$1.65; Eastern cod, large, \$1.70; medium cod, \$1.50; cusk, \$1.65 for large, \$1.20 for medium, and 50 cts. for snappers; haddock, 65 cts.; hake, 65 cts., pollock, 60 cts.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Lillian, for this port, from Matineus, was at Portland on Sunday.

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NO TIDINGS FROM THE SEINERS.

Mackerel Situation Beginning to Assume Desperate Outlook.

No Indications of Fish Reported in Any Direction.

Dull, duller, dullest is today's mackerel story. Not a word from the big fellows; no tidings from Georges or the Rips or down East; just one little trip of small mackerel the only ray of light in the dark gloom.

Sch. Little Fanny is at Boston, with 7000 small fresh mackerel and is getting 8 cents each for them, which means a fine bit of money for every man on her. She got her fish in Nantucket Sound about where the most of the hauls of these small fish have been made previously.

Sch. Lillian is fitting for seining under command of Capt. John Barrett.

Sch. N. A. Rowe is fitting for seining under command of Capt. Joseph Barrett.

Sch. Veda M. McKown was at Provincetown yesterday, having caught her bait there and will start for the North bay today.

The fare of salt bullseyes of sch. Monarch sold to Fred Bradley at \$8 per barrel.

Sch. Grampus Now on the Nova Scotia Coast.

The United States Fish Commission sch. Grampus, bound on a mackerel research cruise to North Bay, was at Sand Point, N. S., on Saturday. Capt. Jerry E. Cook, the mackerel expert on board reports coming from the Rips and Georges. He sighted 11 seiners on the southwest part of Georges, but they had seen no fish despite the fact that the weather had been fine. He reports the traps around Liverpool, N. S., taking a few mackerel. One trip took 23 medium fish, the same kind that showed in the Bay of Fundy a few years ago; no fat on them whatever, black and slim looking.

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SWORDFISH JUMPED AT DORY.

Barely Missed Striking Occupant in His Mad Plunge.

Head of Fish Struck on Gunwale as He Fell.

The swordfishing sch. Motor, at Boston yesterday with a fare, had some trouble with several of the fish she captured, and two of them gave the men in the dories that took them a scare by jabbing their long swords through the bottom in an attempt to get rid of the lily iron. The fish, Capt. Pennington says, were remarkably wild and more than usually vicious.

Thomas Goodwin had the most remarkable experience with a fish he was sent out to get, and one that he will not soon forget. The fish was a big fellow, and full of fight, and Goodwin had an hour's tussle to land him. The fish dove and rose repeatedly, and when he appeared tired out and rested on the surface, Goodwin stood up with the lance ready to plunge it into him. The fish was facing the dory. He had a wicked look, and kept his big staring eyes on Goodwin.

Just as Goodwin raised his arm to throw the lance the fish leaped from the water, and as Goodwin jumped aside the sword grazed his body. The fish fell, striking its head on the gunwale of the dory, and Goodwin picked himself up and rowed the length of the buoy line away, until the swordfish was quieted. At the end of an hour it was tired out and was killed.

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## CATCH ELEPHANT SHARK.

Fishermen Have to Kill Sea Monster to Get It Into Skiff.

An elephant shark said to be the first ever caught along the New Jersey coast, was captured at sea recently and landed on the beach at Galilee after a sharp fight. The fighting monster did not take kindly to the prongs in the hands of the fishermen and the men finally had to kill the big fish before they could land it in the sea skiff. The shark weighed fully 1000 pounds and was about 12 feet long.

## Portland Fish Notes.

What is believed to be the most valuable cargo of fresh fish ever landed at Portland was brought in Monday by the 100 ton Gloucester schooner Dictator. She has been fishing less than a fortnight on the Georges banks and has to show for her cruise 39,000 pounds of halibut, 30,000 pounds of mixed fish and a large quantity estimated at over 10,000 pounds of salt cod. The J. W. Trefethen Company purchased the halibut and a large part of the mixed fish, and the schooner will proceed to Gloucester to take out the balance of her fare. She will stock in the neighborhood of \$4000 for her whole fare.

The antics of a drunken fisherman in a motor dory afforded considerable amusement to a crowd on Long wharf Monday afternoon. Finally, after he had narrowly escaped running down several other boats, some one went out and brought him up to the wharf.

Sloop Crusader landed 4000 of fresh fish and sloop Pantooet had 9 barrels of fresh mackerel Monday.

## Nova Scotia Fish Movements.

Pubnico—Cod fair; herring scarce. Port La Tour—20 barrels herring in Blanche trap; no boats out.

Sand Point—Cod and herring fair. Lockeport—Cod plenty; good appearance of herring in nets and traps. Liverpool—Cod, haddock and herring fair.

Lunenburg—Cod fair; traps report 600 large mackerel.

Musquodoboit—Cod and haddock fair; herring scarce.

Spry River—Salmon fair; cod scarce.

Isaac's Harbor—Few herring and cod reported.

Canso—Pollock plenty; cod, haddock and squid fair; 1500 mackerel taken by trap; netters report as high as 150 fish; several swordfish taken.

Port Hood—Cod and haddock fair.

Alberton—Cod plenty; hake fair.

Bloomfield—Cod and hake fair; no herring.

Point Escuminac—Cod plenty; mackerel scarce.

## Pacific Cod Declined.

During the last week in July there was a decline of one-half cent in the price of Pacific cod, something not anticipated by the local trade on account of the reductions that have been made from time to time this spring. Stocks at San Francisco are still very large, and but little demand is being experienced. It is expected that it will be some time before any additional stock is brought down from the northern stations, as the supply there has been about cleaned up. The failure of the winter fishery makes the holdings in the north rather light, and the spring and summer catch will not be brought down before winter.

## Fish Freezer Notes.

Work is under way on the construction of the new fish handling plant for the Canadian Fish and Cold Storage Co. at Prince Rupert, C. B. It will cost half a million dollars. The expense of equipping the cold storage and freezing plants will be something like \$300,000.

The Pacific Coast Fisheries Company of Vancouver, B. C., are building a large handling plant at Pacofi, on Selwin inlet. More than \$300,000, it is stated, will be expended on the plant alone, which includes a cold storage building, 176x96 feet in area, and a refrigerating and freezing plant.

## Caught Silver Tarpon.

A silver tarpon, five feet four inches long, and weighing about 90 pounds, was caught off Montauk Point, Long Island, last week, by P. S. Tabor, who shipped it to B. D. Luce & Co., Fulton Fish Market, New York, with his regular consignment of fish.

Silver tarpon are usually found in the Gulf of Mexico. It is seldom that they are found in the Atlantic ocean. Some years ago one was taken in Gravesend Bay. There was much speculation as to where Tabor's fish came from. It was sold to a Rock-away fish dealer.

## PRICES GOOD AT BOSTON.

## Receipts Included Mackerel, Swordfish and Groundfish.

Boston is shy of fish this morning, and the T wharf dealers are paying fine prices for what fares are in. They also have one trip of small mackerel and one swordfish trip in and are paying well for both.

The ground fish trips number eight, the fares ranging from 2000 or 3000 pounds, of which there are several, to sch. Mary C. Santos' catch of 51,000 pounds. Sch. Little Fanny is the fortunate vessel with mackerel, she having 7000 small fish, taken in Vineyard Sound.

Sch. Ellen C. Burke with swordfish, got in yesterday, but held over for this morning's market, and gained by so doing, getting 11 cents per pound.

All the big vessels in cannot help making big stocks, as haddock and cod are way up.

The receipts in detail are as follows:

## Boston Arrivals.

Sch. Mary C. Santos, 6000 haddock, 27,000 cod, 2000 hake, 16,000 pollock.

Sch. Ignatius Enos, 2200 cod, 1500 pollock.

Sch. Morning Star, 1000 cod, 1500 pollock.

Sch. Laura Enos, 1000 cod, 1000 pollock.

Sch. Georgianna, 1000 cod, 1000 pollock.

Sch. Alice M. Guthrie, 27,000 haddock, 10,000 cod, 5000 hake.

Sch. Mary E. Silveira, 4000 haddock, 26,000 cod, 2000 hake, 12,000 pollock.

Sch. Boyd and Leeds, 1800 haddock, 19,000 cod.

Sch. Ellen C. Burke, 56 swordfish.

Sch. Little Fanny, 7000 small fresh mackerel.

Haddock, \$4 to \$5 per cwt.; large cod, \$4; markets, \$3; hake, \$1 to \$2; pollock, \$2.50; swordfish, 11 cts. per lb.; fresh mackerel, 8 cts. each.

## Searching for Overdue Fishing Smack.

The United States revenue cutter Windom sailed from Galveston, Texas, on July 30 to search for the fishing smack Bonita, owned by the Gulf Fisheries Co. The Bonita sailed for the Trinity Banks, about 70 miles east of Galveston, on July 13, with the schooner Elmo of the same fleet. The storm struck the Elmo, which was built at this port several years ago, and nothing more was seen of the sister ship. The Elmo limped into port under jury rig after having endured the storm. The fact that the crew of the Bonita only carried provisions and ice to last them 20 days adds greater stress to the possibility of suffering if not starvation. The fishing schooners have been known to be out 35 days before reporting, but in that case ample provisions had been made for a long cruise to the Campeche Banks. It is the opinion of some that the Bonita had her masts and sails torn away by the hurricane, and the crew are laboring in a dead calm, unable to steer the vessel toward land.

## PORT OF GLOUCESTER.

## Arrived Today.

Sch. Ada K. Damon, Portland for Beverly, lumber.

Sch. Charlie A. Sproul, Bangor for Weymouth, lumber.

## Fishing Fleet Movements.

Schs. Cynthia and Arabia are fitting for salt and fresh cod shacking trips.

Sch. Muriel will now fit for a fresh and salt cod shacking trip under command of Capt. Burns Firth.

Capt. George Marr of sch. Senator reports speaking schs. Pinta, Essex and Henry M. Stanley on Bacalieu bank recently.

## Squid Becoming Scarce.

Recent reports from the eastern fishing grounds tend to show that squid have dropped off and are not as plentiful as formerly.

## Good Halibut Share.

Sch. Senator, Capt. George Marr, stocked \$2100 on her recent halibut trip, the crew sharing \$43.

## FOUR ARRIVALS AT THIS PORT.

## Three Georges Handline Fares and One From the Rips.

Gloucester's fish receipts this morning are very light, comprising one seiner with no fish, two Georges handliners with nice fares, 45,000 pounds of salt cod each, and one Rips cod fisherman with 35,000 pounds.

The Georgesmen schs. Senator Saulsbury and Fish Hawk are both from the eastward, and their fares are very satisfying, as they help to keep up this old line of fishing, which is now followed by only a handful of vessels. Several of the salt and fresh shackers are now expected along at any time, and from last reports several more vessels are fitting for this line of the fishery, which has thus far this season produced some fine goods, bringing the staple codfish, instead of so much hake and cusk, as has been the general rule for several seasons past.

Sch. Lawrence Murdock, another of the Georges handliners, came in during the forenoon with a fair catch.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

## Today's Receipts.

Sch. Senator Saulsbury, Georges, 45,000 pounds salt cod.

Sch. Fish Hawk, Georges, 45,000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Tartar, seining.

Sch. Oliver F. Killam, Rips, 35,000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Lillian, via Boston.

Sch. Reporter, via Boston.

Sch. Lawrence Murdock, Georges, 27,000 lbs. salt cod.

## Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Wm. H. Moody, Georges.

Sch. Mary E. Cooney, haddocking.

Sch. Galatea, Western Bank.

## Today's Fish Market.

Cape North salt cod, large, \$3; mediums, \$2.75.

Cape North fresh cod, large, \$1.55; mediums, \$1.40.

Outside sales fresh western cod, large, \$2; market, \$1.65; haddock, 65c. and 67 1-2c.

Outside sales fresh eastern cod, large, \$1.70; mediums, \$1.50.

Outside sales salt Rips cod, \$3.60 per cwt. for large and \$3.25 for mediums.

Outside sales trawl bank salt cod, large, \$2.87 1-2; mediums, \$2.62 1-2; snappers, \$1.50.

Salt dory handline codfish, large, \$3.25; mediums, \$3.

Outside sales of round pollock, 60c. per cwt.

Bank halibut, 9 cents per lb. for white and 7 cents per lb. for gray.

Fresh large mackerel, 15 cts. each.

Fresh medium mackerel, 16 cts. each.

Salt shore mackerel, unrimmed \$18, per barrel.

Salt bullseyes, \$7.87 1-2 per bbl.

Board of Trade prices:

Large drift Georges cod, \$3.60 per cwt.; medium cod, \$3.25.

Large halibut cod, \$3 per cwt.; medium cod, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.75.

Trawl salt Georges cod, large, \$3.50, medium, \$3.00.

Dory handline salt cod, large, \$3.25, medium, \$3.00.

Eastern drift salt cod, large, \$3.50, medium, \$3.15.

Trawl bank cod, large, \$2.87 1-2 per cwt.; medium, \$2.62 1-2; snappers, \$1.50.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.00, snappers, \$1.

Salt pollock, \$1 per cwt.; salt haddock, \$1; salt hake, \$1.

Splitting price for fresh fish, Western cod, large, \$2 per cwt.; medium do., \$1.65; Eastern cod, large, \$1.70; medium cod, \$1.50; cusk, \$1.65 for large, \$1.20 for medium, and 50 cts. for snappers; haddock, 65 cts.; hake, 65 cts., pollock, 60 cts.

## Harbor Notes.

Sch. Arabia is on the Rocky Neck railways.

Schs. Ralph L. Hall and Edward A. Rich are on Burnham's railways.

Sch. Motor is on Parkhurst's railways.

Sch. Romance is at Burnham's shears for a new mainmast.

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## LARGE RED SNAPPER HAUL.

The fishing sch. *Cavair*, formerly of this port, arrived at Pensacola, Fla., a week ago Saturday with 16,000 pounds of red snappers. This is one of the largest hauls made in some time. For seven days before reaching port, the crew were without food other than red snappers taken from the cargo.

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## Herring at Sand Point, N. S.

A despatch from Sand Point, N. S., says that herring are very plentiful in the nets, and 30 barrels of mackerel were taken at Thorburn, the first trap at Shelburne Light. Thirty barrels of squid were also taken. The schooners *Viola*, *Susan B. Snow* and *Georgie Campbell* baited at Sand Point last week.

Aug. 12.

# THE ST. PIERRE FISHING FLEET.

Suffers Large Annual Loss of Vessels and Men by Ocean Steamers.

Movement to Keep Latter Away From Fishing Banks.

The *St. John's, N. F., Chronicle* of recent date, contained from the graphic pen of its *St. Pierre, Miquelon*, correspondence, the following stirring story on the dangers of the Grand Bank, and how ocean liners crash into fishing schooners in the dead of night or foggy weather, together with some facts about this fishery and the French fleet.

"There is some talk among the French officials here of trying to induce the Atlantic steamship company to lay down rules which shall prevent their vessels from cutting across the Banks of Newfoundland. Many fishermen's lives are lost every year in the running down of schooners by steamers. Some day the boat may be on the other leg, and an ocean liner go to the bottom.

"There are two graveyards in this town hewn, like the sepulchre of Joseph of Arimathea, out of the rock, and the little wooden slab throws light on this subject. If a schooner is lost in a storm, the rest of the fishing fleet know all about it, and the record in the graveyard reads that so-and-so, a resident of these islands, perished in a tempest that swept the banks at such and such a time. The record is, of course, equally precise where the fisherman has died a natural death afloat or ashore. But where schooners' crews have suddenly vanished between dark and daylight or during fog, all the slab can say is that it is erected by a sorrowing wife or mother to the memory of one who 'disappeared with his shipmates on the Grand Banks and was seen no more.'

"In the graveyard on Dog Island, just opposite this town, a slab chronicles

## The Disappearance of 15 Local Fishermen in One Night,

but not apparently in a storm. In all such cases Atlantic steamers are suspected.

"The first thing that strikes a visitor to St. Pierre is the number of widows and orphans. The French government and the municipality maintain an orphans' home. The widows do washing for the bank fleet, kneeling on stones in all weather by the streams that run from the heights of Cap L'Aigle and Pain-de-Sucre.

"Besides the St. Pierre fishermen who frequent the banks or engage in shore fishing from five to seven thousand men and boys come from France in the spring and return in the fall. It is safe to say that of this contingent from 50 to 75 on an average are drowned every season. Last year was one of the fatal years. A storm raged for days at the September equinox, and 20 schooners, their chains having parted, were hurled upon this rocky archipelago and the south shore of Newfoundland. In addition, three schooners were sunk by steamers, and all hands drowned. Eight other schooners were struck by steamers and damaged.

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## Queer Custom of French Fishermen.

"The fleets arrive on the banks between April 18 and May 15. Among the French the patron of the schooner selects the anchorage. There are anchorages and anchorages. You may hit on one teeming with cod, on one that harbors nothing but anons, a bastard species, so-called, from having a black streak, resembling the tail of a donkey (ane) down its back, or one which yields mostly linguards or male cod, or one rich in moruettes or savignots, young cod. The genuine Al

cod of commerce is found principally on the Grand Banks. The cod of the Banquereau is not so heavy, and disappears in June, when the caplin begins to run. The smallest cod are those of the Bank de Saint Pierre, but they are of superior quality.

There are all sorts of superstitious notions in the heads of the patrons with regard to anchoring. A patron from Dieppe was once deemed indispensable because the Dieppoises were skilled in sorcery, but nowadays, a Fecampoise, Breton or Canalais does just as well provided he has the talent or knack of knowledge how to light on a good anchorage, though no one can describe this vein, except that it is a kind of instinct. Anyhow, once the schooner has anchored, it is bad luck to move from the spot until the time comes for you to carry the catch to St. Pierre, either for shipment to France as green fish, or delivery to the agents here for drying.

## The Great Danger is from Passing Steamers.

"On a clear day there is no danger from the big steamers. In the first place, the steamer herself can keep a sharp lookout, and secondly, as the cod are lethargic in clear weather, it is not a busy time with the fishermen, and they would as lief see a steamer turn up as not.

"At 4 o'clock in the afternoon, the lines or tanti are laid out. The schooner is the hub of a wheel, so to speak, and the tanti radiate from it like spokes. A six-dory schooner usually has lines enough to carry 10,000 books. The lines are lifted at 4 in the morning and the cod taken off.

"The collisions occur chiefly in the night, when the fishermen are snatching a few winks, prior to 4 a. m. They have the proper lights burning at the mast and a watch on deck, but it is very dark, with fog or rain and the steamer is on top of them before they know it. If they have time to cut the cable, well and good; they lose death. If not, the "Tout le monde sur le pont!" is hardly uttered when they are literally wiped out by a huge mass of iron and steel careering along at 15 or 20 miles an hour. If they should be lucky enough to

## Get Off With Their Bows Stove and a Man or Two Killed

by the impact, boats from the neighboring schooners soon arrive and ask: "Was she British or American?" "God knows," is the reply of the agitated men; "all we know is that we saw the flash of a monster and heard voices blaspheming in a foreign tongue."

"The fishermen take every steamer that hits them to be a passenger steamer, whether she is or not, and never by any chance speak of encounters with freight steamers, although I suspect that the latter are responsible for many of these disasters.

"One night a few years ago the *City of Rome*, from Glasgow to New York, crashed into the *Victor*, a 40-ton schooner from St. Pierre, with a crew of 13 men and a dog. Every fishing schooner has a dog or else a four-year-old black cat, with four white feet, "for luck." The *Victor's* bow was crashed, but she kept afloat. Capt. Young of the *City of Rome* stopped and sent out boats to grope for her. He then put Second Officer McKenzie and Seaman Nelson on board, and they brought the schooner and crew safely into harbor after three days' tough experience from leaks and storms. That feat will long be remembered here, because if the fishermen are to be believed the steamers usually proceed on their way as if nothing had happened, and tell the passengers who may have felt the shock that it was caused by striking loose ice or suddenly changing the ship's course.

## Steamers Should Be Forbidden on Banks by International Agreement.

Nine out of every 10 collisions occur on the southern edge of the Grand Banks. It would not be difficult to establish an international rule forbidding steamers from going inside it. Such a rule would not affect the big liners, which take a more southerly route, but even if on rare occasions it did, it would add to the security of their passengers. The fishing fleet of all nations on the banks numbered 900 sail last season. The banks properly cover an area of 1700 square miles. The risk alike to ocean vessels and fishing vessels is sufficiently great to demand attention. A good many things have happened since the elder Pitt declared that England

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would defend Newfoundland as a training ground for her navy, even if an enemy were in possession of the tower.

"France and Canada are the only countries which now give bounties to fishermen. Newfoundland has been almost driven off the banks by the competition of France and by the competition of cod from Norway and Iceland, while the fisherman is in no great demand for modern navies, being of no more use than the veriest land-lubber on board a steam-driven iron-clad until he is licked into shape. The industry on the banks, once deemed so important by the United States as well as European nations, is on the decline. Cod are still abundant, but beef and pork have grown cheaper, owing to the operation of modern agencies, and Chicago or La Plate is a much more important place to the old world than the Bordeaux fish exchange.

not changed, but is about as wretched as ever. If a Frenchman, he has all he can eat of pork and all he can drink of brandy and loaded claret; but whatever his nationality is he is still a sort of white slave, on whom the elements have no mercy, and for whom his fellow-men care little. Of late a movement has been started in France for elevating him and protecting him from unnecessary danger.

"The French government now has a careful inspection made of the schooners before they leave port, and the old type of a floating coffin has been abolished. Regulations have been issued respecting medicine chests, the provisioning of dories before they leave the ship's side in case they should be carried adrift and other details of that kind. The demand that ocean steamers should keep clear of the banks is a step in the same laudable direction, and the officials here are in hopes that public opinion will support it."

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# STILL NO MACKEREL.

Report of Small Fare Being Taken Off Seguin.

Mackerel have been an unknown quantity now for some time as far forth as the landing of any is concerned. This morning brings little or no encouragement to the situation. There is not a trip in, although no one can predict what may happen before night. It is pretty certain, however, considering the recent heavy weather and northeasterly gale that no fishing has been done this week, or could have been done had the fish been showing plentifully.

There is, however, some little encouragement in the following:

Our Portland correspondent writes that it is reported here by a reliable authority that sch. Robert and Carr got between 60 and 70 barrels of small mackerel off Seguin Sunday and salted them. The party making the report is claimed to have been alongside sch. Robert and Carr when she got the mackerel.

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## Nova Scotia Fish Movements.

Yarmouth—Cod and haddock fair; halibut scarce.

Pubnico—Cod fair; herring and mackerel scarce.

Digby—Cod and hake plenty; haddock and herring fair.

Sand Point—Cod and herring fair.

Lockeport—Cod and herring plenty.

Liverpool—Cod, herring and mackerel plenty; about 27 barrels mackerel taken today; haddock fair; American vessel *Mary A. Gleason* taking ice.

Lunenburg—Cod fair; few mackerel in traps; banker *Hawaneer* from Grand Banks with 2300 quintals reports fish plenty.

Musquodoboit—Cod and haddock fair; herring scarce.

Isaacs Harbor—Few cod and herring reported.

Whitehead—Herring fair; cod scarce; some boats two barrels herring.

Arichat—Haddock and herring fair. Mabou—Hake very plenty; cod plenty; herring and squid fair.

Port Hood—Cod and haddock fair; hake and herring scarce.